

PTO/SB/21 (05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 10/698,495 |
| Filing Date | October 31, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | James A. Mooney |
| Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 4003 |

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

3

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | Remarks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | Joseph P. Gastel, Reg. No. 17,796 |
| Signature | <i>Joseph P. Gastel</i> |
| Date | December 17, 2003 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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|-----------------------|-------------------------|------|---------------|
| Typed or printed name | Joseph P. Gastel | | |
| Signature | <i>Joseph P. Gastel</i> | Date | Dec. 17, 2003 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. Serial No. - 10/698,495
Filing Date - October 31, 2003
Inventor - James A. Mooney et al
Group Art Unit -
Examiner name -
Atty Docket - 4003

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING
OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

MAIL STOP DD
Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last.

This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/273,687, filed March 22, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 09/272,498, filed March 19, 1999, wherein copies were supplied in or cited by the Examiner. It is applicants' understanding that copies of the U.S. patents need not be supplied.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. MOONEY ET AL

JOSEPH P. GASTEL

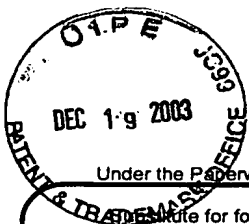
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December 17, 2003

JPG/rk

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Compleat if Known

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| Application Number | 10/698,495 |
| Filing Date | October 31, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | James A. Mooney et al |
| Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 4003 |

Sheet 1 of 1

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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| | | US- 1,459,845 | 06-26-1923 | Mitchell | |
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| | | US- | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
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Examiner
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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